



IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) An improved plastic basket shopping cart comprising:

a cart base frame having an upwardly extending rear frame section having handle means mounted thereon;

at least three wheels rotatably mounted on said cart base frame;

a plastic basket mounted on said cart base frame, said plastic basket including;

a base wall, left and right side walls mounted on and extending upwards from said base wall and a front wall mounted on and extending upwards from said base wall and extending between and connecting forward portions of said left and right side walls;

each of said left and right side walls and said front wall having a plurality of generally rectangular wall openings extending through said left and right side walls and said front wall, said wall openings generally having a height greater than their width;

at least some of said wall openings on said left and right side walls and said front wall adjacent said base wall being generally square in shape with approximately equal heights and widths for improved structural strength;

each of said left and right side walls of said plastic basket including generally cross-sectionally arcuate rear flange sections mounted on and extending ~~which extend~~ outwards and rearwards therefrom, said rear flange sections each at least partially covering an adjacent portion of said rear frame section to substantially cover and close the gap between each of said left and right

1 side walls and said adjacent portion of said rear frame section thereby substantially
2 preventing prevent items in said plastic basket from falling out of said plastic basket through
3 a gap between said left and right side walls and said rear frame section; and

4
5 a basket rim support wire extending circumferentially around and passing through upper portions
6 of said left and right side walls and said front wall, the ends of said basket rim support wire
7 connected to and mounted on said rear frame section adjacent an upper portion thereof for
8 increasing the structural strength of said plastic basket on said rear frame section of said cart
9 base frame.

10
11 2. (original) The improved plastic basket shopping cart of claim 1 wherein said cart
12 base frame further includes an upwardly extending center basket support strut which engages said
13 base wall, said base wall further including a reinforced plate section operative to provide additional
14 structural support for the connection of said center basket support strut thereto thus strengthening
15 said improved plastic basket shopping cart.

16
17 3. (original) The improved plastic basket shopping cart of claim 1 further
18 comprising a rear wall mounted on said rear frame section of said cart base.

19
20 4. (original) The improved plastic basket shopping cart of claim 1 wherein said
21 generally cross-sectionally arcuate rear flange sections have cross-sectional curvatures approximately
22 equal to the curvature of said adjacent portions of said rear frame section such that said rear flange
23 sections are generally continuously adjacent said adjacent portions of said rear frame section.

24
25 5. (original) The improved plastic basket shopping cart of claim 1 wherein each
26 of said left and right side walls and said front wall include a plurality of intersecting generally
27 horizontal and generally vertical ribs, said generally vertical ribs extending to adjacent the top edges

1 of each of said left and right side walls and said front wall, said generally horizontal ribs on each of
2 said left and right side walls extending to adjacent said front wall.

3
4 **6.** (original) The improved plastic basket shopping cart of claim **1** further
5 comprising a channel formed in said upper portions of said left and right side walls and said front
6 wall, said channel adapted to receive said basket rim support wire extending circumferentially
7 around and passing through said upper portions of said left and right side walls and said front wall
8 within said channel in order to provide additional structural stability to said plastic basket.

9
10 **7.** (currently amended) An improved plastic basket shopping cart comprising:
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12 a cart base frame having an upwardly extending center basket support strut, an upwardly extending
13 rear frame section having handle means mounted thereon;
14
15 at least three wheels rotatably mounted on said cart base frame;
16
17 a plastic basket mounted on said cart base frame, said plastic basket including;
18
19 a base wall, left and right side walls mounted on and extending upwards from said base wall and a
20 front wall mounted on and extending upwards from said base wall and extending between
21 and connecting forward portions of said left and right side walls;
22
23 said upwardly extending center basket support strut engaging and supporting said base wall, said
24 base wall further including a reinforced plate section operative to provide additional
25 structural support for the connection of said center basket support strut thereto;
26
27 each of said left and right side walls and said front wall having a plurality of wall openings
28

1 extending through said left and right side walls and said front wall, said wall openings
2 generally having a height greater than their width;

3
4 at least some of said wall openings on said left and right side walls and said front wall adjacent said
5 base wall having approximately equal heights and widths for improved structural strength;

6
7 each of said left and right side walls of said plastic basket including generally cross-sectionally
8 arcuate rear flange sections mounted on and extending ~~which extend~~ outwards and rearwards
9 therefrom, said rear flange sections each at least partially covering an adjacent portion of said
10 rear frame section to substantially cover and close the gap between each of said left and right
11 side walls and said adjacent portion of said rear frame section thereby substantially
12 preventing ~~prevent~~ items in said plastic basket from falling out of said plastic basket through
13 a gap between said left and right side walls and said rear frame section; and

14
15 a basket rim support wire extending circumferentially around and passing through upper portions
16 of said left and right side walls and said front wall, the ends of said basket rim support wire
17 connected to and mounted on said rear frame section adjacent an upper portion thereof for
18 increasing the structural strength of said plastic basket on said rear frame section of said cart
19 base frame.

20
21 8. (original) The improved plastic basket shopping cart of claim 7 further
22 comprising a rear wall mounted on said rear frame section of said cart base.

23
24 9. (original) The improved plastic basket shopping cart of claim 7 wherein said
25 generally cross-sectionally arcuate rear flange sections have cross-sectional curvatures approximately
26 equal to the curvature of said adjacent portions of said rear frame section such that said rear flange
27 sections are generally continuously adjacent said adjacent portions of said rear frame section.

1 **10.** (original) The improved plastic basket shopping cart of claim 7 wherein each
2 of said left and right side walls and said front wall include a plurality of intersecting generally
3 horizontal and generally vertical ribs, said generally vertical ribs extending to adjacent the top edges
4 of each of said left and right side walls and said front wall, said generally horizontal ribs on each of
5 said left and right side walls extending to adjacent said front wall.

6
7 **11.** (original) The improved plastic basket shopping cart of claim 7 further
8 comprising a channel formed in said upper portions of said left and right side walls and said front
9 wall, said channel adapted to receive said basket rim support wire extending circumferentially
10 around and passing through said upper portions of said left and right side walls and said front wall
11 within said channel in order to provide additional structural stability to said plastic basket.